THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) In order to rehabilitate the people displaced due to border shelling/firing at Kargil, a relief package has been announced by the State Government as under:—

- Rs.20,000/- under BADP/EAS for construction of bunker to each family/house that has come under heavy border shelling.
- Free ration 7 Kgs of rice and 2 Kgs of atta per person per month to the residents of villages that have suffered total loss of crops.
- Cash assistance for essentials @ Rs.200- per month to the residents of villages that have suffered total loss of crops.
- Free Kerosene oil @ 10 liters per family per month.
- Cash assistance for fodder @ Rs.150/- per large animal per month and Rs.30/- per small animal per month subject to a ceiling of Rs.1000/- per month per family to families residing in severely affected villages where it has not been possible for the farmers to sow/grow crops.
- House rent @ Rs.200/- per month to families residing in 16 most vulnerable villages in Drass, Kargil and Batalic sectors, should these families be required to move out due to continued shelling in future.
- Ex-gratia relief Rs. @ 1 lakh per death case and for immovable property damaged @ Rs.50% of the loss assessed subject to a ceiling of Rs. 1 lakh per case as a result of border shelling.
- Free medical treatment including cost of drugs to the displaced persons till such time as they go back to their homes and hearths and also for livestock of families in the border belt where the families have not been able to sow/grow crops due to border shelling/firing, till the next sowing season.
- Issue of identity cards to all male population above the age of 14 years living in border villages.
- The State Government is being reimbursed on this account from the National Defence Fund and Central Government Funds.

**Recruitments in Army and Paramilitary from NER**

5507. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of tribal youths from hilly areas of Assam recruited in the Army and para-military forces in various categories during the last five years and till date;

(b) the total number of tribal candidates from the tribal areas of Assam propsed to be recruited in Army and Paramilitary forces during the next two years;

(c) what steps have been taken so far by Government of giving relaxation with regard to qualification and age etc. to the tribal candidates of Assam in particular and NER in general; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The position with regard to recruitment in Army and Paramilitary forces from NER is as under:—

1. ARMY

1.1 Recruitment of Officers in the Army is made on the basis of all India competitive examination. In case of Other Ranks, no specific vacancy is earmarked for tribals of hilly districts of Assam. Vacancies are worked out for the State as a whole. However, the following number of tribal youth from hilly areas of Assam were recruited in the Army in the last five years:—

| Year | No. of Personnel Recruited |
|---|---|
| 1994-95 | 91 |
| 1995-96 | 261 |
| 1996-97 | 69 |
| 1997-98 | 57 |
| 1998-99 | 113 |

1.2 Since vacancies in the Army are worked out for the whole state on the basis of Recruitable Male Population, it is not possible to indicate the candidates from tribal areas who may be recruited to the Army during the next two years.

1.3 The following relaxations in educational qualification and physical standards have been granted to the tribal candidates from Assam for recruitment in the Army:—

(a) Dispensation in educational qualification from class 10 to class 5 for enrolment as soldier (GD).

(b) Height requirement is 157 cm which is one of the lowest in the country.

2. PARAMILITARY FORCES

2.1 As per information received from Ministry of Home Affairs, the number of persons belonging to Scheduled Tribes recruited in paramilitary forces i.e., Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Border Security Force (BSF), Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and Assam Rifles (AR), during the last five years is as under:—

| YEAR | No. of personnel recruited | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | BSF | CRPF | CISF | ITBP | AR |
| 1995 | 20 | 73 | 81 | 33 | 05 |
| 1996 | 02 | 02 | 03 | — | — |
| 1997 | 05 | 02 | 16 | 01 | 06 |
| 1998 | 49 | 85 | 15 | 20 | 13 |
| 1999 | 37 | — | — | — | 10 |

2.2 The total number of Scheduled Tribe candidates proposed to be recruited from Assam in the rank of Constables depends on the vacancies.

2.3 For Assistant Commandants and Sub Inspectors the recruitment is done on all India basis with provision of reservations for Scheduled Tribes.

2.4 The following relaxations in physical standards have been granted:—

(i) relaxed height requirements for men and women belonging to hill areas of NER and tribals for recruitment in Paramilitary forces:—

| Rank | | MEN | WOMEN |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sub Inspectors | Candidates of hill areas of NER | 165 cm | 155 cm |
| | Tribals/Adivasis including Mizos and Nagas | 162.5 cm | 154 cm |
| Constables | Candidates of hill areas of NER | 165 cm | 155 cm |
| | Tribals | 162.5 cm | 150 cm |

(ii) Relaxed chest requirements for the candidates belonging to Hill areas of NER and tribals:—

| Rank | | Unexpanded | Expanded |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sub Inspectors | | 77 cm | 82 cm |
| Constables | Candidates of Hill areas of NER | 78 cm | 83 cm |
| | Tribals | 76 cm | 81 cm |